

NCTHINKS LEGISLATION UPDATED
Changes to NCThinks Now Law

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The changes proposed to the NCThinks legislation are now law. Governor Perdue signed HB613 on June 23. HB 613 is now Session Law 2011-224.

NCThinks, created by the North Carolina General Assembly in 1975, is the state's suggestion system for state employees. Earlier this year, the NCThinks State Suggestion Review Committee approved the proposed legislative changes.

The approved changes mean suggestions submitted to the website on or after July 1, 2011, will continue to have a one-year trial period. However, the trial period can be concluded after three months if the suggestion is found to have saved money. The suggestion can then move forward through the awards process at a more efficient pace.

Another approved change increases the percentage of savings the suggestor's agency is allowed to keep. Under the legislative changes, agencies can now keep 15 percent of the savings. Previously, agencies kept 10 percent of the savings from an approved suggestion. The new percentage applies to suggestions submitted to the NCThinks website on or after July 1, 2011.

NCThinks State Coordinator Peggy Beach believes the changes will make NCThinks an even more attractive benefit to state employees. "This is a good time for state employees to get involved in finding creative solutions to the challenges facing North Carolina," she said.

State employees can submit their cost-saving suggestions online at www.ncthinks.nc.gov. NCThinks has saved North Carolina more than \$11.8 million since 1975.

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